

Systematic and faunistic notes on Afrotropical *Chaetogonopteron* De Meijere (Diptera: Dolichopodidae: Sympycninae)

I.Ya. Grichanov

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Sympycnus nectarophagus Curran is transferred to *Chaetogonopteron*. *Hoplignusus bernardi* Vaillant, *Sympycnus albipes* Lamb, *S. gorgon* and *S. nigeriensis* are placed in synonymy with *Ch. nectarophagus*. New records for this species are given.

I.Ya. Grichanov, All-Russian Institute of Plant Protection, Shosse Podbelskogo 3, St.Petersburg, Pushkin 196608, Russia. E-mail: grichanov@mail.ru

Introduction

Afrotropical species of the genus *Sympycnus* Loew, 1857 are poorly known and have never been reviewed. An extensive material of this genus from collections of several European and African museums has been examined by the author. Descriptions of at least 25 new species and new records for known African species are waiting for publication. Some of the species should be transferred to other genera and some names should be placed in synonymy. The genus *Chaetogonopteron* De Meijere, 1914 was not known from the Afrotropical Region (except for the Island of Rodriguez). In this paper, *Sympycnus nectarophagus* Curran is transferred to *Chaetogonopteron*. *Hoplignusus bernardi* Vaillant, *Sympycnus albipes* Lamb, *S. gorgon* Frey and *S. nigeriensis* Vanschuytbroeck are placed in synonymy with *Ch. nectarophagus*. The species appears to be widely distributed in many countries of Africa and on adjacent islands, reaching southern Palaearctic and western Orient.

Listing material examined, I use square brackets [...] to insert my personal remarks and data on the depositories. Exclamation mark (!) in "Distribution" section means first record for a country. The material examined is deposited in the following collections (with abbreviations used in the text): BMNH – Natural History Museum, London, UK; HNHM – Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary; ISNB – Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Brussels, Belgium; MNHP – Museum of Natural History, Paris, France; MZLU – Zoological Museum, Lund University, Sweden; RMCA – Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren, Belgium; TAU – Department of Zoology, Tel Aviv University, Israel; ZIUK – Zoological Institute, Kiel University, Germany.

Chaetogonopteron nectarophagus (Curran, 1924), comb. n.

Sympycnus nectarophagus Curran, 1924: 472, Fig. 1a.
Sympycnus albipes Lamb in Bezzi & Lamb, 1926: 548,
syn. n.; Olejník eek, 2002: 56 (*Chaetogonopteron*).
Hoplignusus bernardi Vaillant, 1953: 11, syn. n.; Meuffels & Grootaert, 1987: 318 [*Sympycnus (Pycsymnus)*];
Meuffels & Grootaert, 1997: 253 (*Chaetogonopteron*).
Sympycnus (Pycsymnus) gorgon Frey, 1958: 13, syn. n.
Sympycnus nigeriensis Vanschuytbroeck, 1962: 355,
syn. n.

Material examined. **Sierra Leone** [2 ♂, 4 ♀, all labelled "Lund University, Sierra Leone Expedition 1993, leg. L. Cederholm, R. Danielsson, R. Hall"; MZLU]: S of Freetown, close to Sussex, 13°11'W, 8°20'N, 30.XI.1993, loc. 4, swept at roadside; Freetown, Fourah Bay College, 13°14'W, 8°28'N, 24.XI.1993, loc. 7, swept in sec. forest; 15 km E Matatoko, Tabanko Bridge, 11°45'W, 8°38'N, 29.XI.1993, loc. 13, swept along river side; **Côte d'Ivoire**: 1 ♂ [in alcohol], W Abidjan, CSRS, Adiapo-Doumé, 5°21'N, 4°01'W, Malaise, 22.II.-3.III.1998, leg. Kassebeer & Hilger [ZIUK]; **Ghana**: 2 ♂, Kumasi, No. 11, 12-14 & 21.VI.1965, leg. Endrődy-Younga [HNHM]; **Nigeria**: 2 ♀, Niger Prov., Kurmi 55 miles S of Kontagora, 28.VII.1971, J.C. Deeming [BMNH]; **Cameroun**: 10 ♂, 5 ♀ [in alcohol], entre Banyo et Tibotti, 24.VII.1987, A. Pauly, marigot ombrage, fauchoir [ISNB]; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Kumba, 24.V. & 26.X.1949, H. Oldroyd, B.M. 1950-2 [BMNH]; **Gabon**: 10 ♂, 5 ♀ [in alcohol], Ntoum, VIII. 1985, A. Pauly, fauchoir [ISNB]; **Congo** (former Congo belge): 2 ♂, Eala, 31.III.1936 & IX.1936, J. Ghesquière, R. Mus. Hist. Nat. Belg. I.G. 10482 [ISNB]; 18 ♂, Parc National Garamba, Miss. H. De Saeger, 14.V. 14.VI. 2.VII. 3.VIII. 28.X. 31.X. 14.XI. 18.XII.1951, 2.I. 9.VII. 15.VII. 9.IX. 24.IX.1952, H. De Saeger [RMCA]; **São Tomé and Príncipe**: 1 ♂, Príncipe I., 21.XII.1932, W.H.T. Tams, B.M. 1933-39 [BMNH]; **South Africa**: 1 ♂, taken in forest, St. Lucia, N. Zululand, Coll. 1759, Sept. 1937 [BMNH]; **Malawi**: 1 ♂, Mont Zomba, H. Feijen leg. [MNHP]; **Tanzania**: 1 ♂, 3 ♀, Kwamsambia [Amani, Chemka], Tanga region, 1-18.II.1987, leg. Mahunka, Zicsi [HNHM]; **Uganda**: 1 ♀, Ruwenzori Range, XII. 1934-I.1935, B.M.E. Afr. Exp., B.M. 1935-203, Namwamba

Valley, 10100 ft., T.H.E. Jackson [BMNH]; **Ethiopia:** 1 ♂, 6 ♀, Gamo Gofa, Arba Minch Springs, 1300 m, 5.II.2000, I. Yarom & A. Freidberg [TAU]; **Réunion:** 16 ♂, 14 ♀ [in alcohol], S St. Benoit, Le Grand Etang, 500 m, 21°5'47"S, 55°38'47"E, Wegrand, 26.II.1999, leg. Kassebeer & Hilger [ZIUK]; **Mauritius** [9 ♂, 2 ♀, all labelled "A.M. Hutsom, B.M. 1971-346"; BMNH]: Anse Courtois, Curepipe, Case Royale Mts., and Nicoliere Mts., 3, 6, 9, 16 & 17.VI.1971; **Seychelles:** 1 ♂, C.N.R.S.-R.C.P. 318, November 1977, J. David & L. Tsacas, Ile Praslin, Vallée de mai, 15.XI.1977.

Diagnosis. The species belongs to a group of species having apicoventral worm-like process on 2nd segment of hind tarsus. Males with 5 strong dorsocentrals; often one more hairlike dorsocentral seta present between 4th and 5th strong setae. Fore basitarsus simple; two apical segments of fore tarsus white or yellow; sometimes 4th segment mostly dark. Middle tarsus simple. Two basal segments of hind tarsus shortened; basitarsus without apical fringe of setae; 4th tarsomere much shorter than 3rd; length 2-3 mm.

Remarks. The male holotype of *Sympycnus nigeriensis* Vanschuytbroeck (RMCA, examined) is evidently *Ch. nectarophagus*. Published descriptions and figures of the hind tarsus of *S. albipes* Lamb, *Hoplignusus bernardi* Vaillant and *S. (Pycsymnus) gorgon* Frey demonstrate their conspecificity with *Ch. nectarophagus*. *Ch. nepalensis* (Hollis, 1964) (described as Nepalese subspecies of *S. albipes*) and *Ch. ceratophorum* Yang & Grootaert, 1999 (described from tropical China) are possible synonyms of the species. According to Dan Bickel (pers. comm.), the true *Ch. nectarophagus* is present in Nepal. The species occurs also in Sokotra I. (Jí á Olejní èek, pers. comm.). It has many relatives in the Oriental Region, but I have not seen any other species of the genus in the Afrotropics.

Distribution. South Africa, Malawi (!), Congo (Kinshasa), Uganda (!), Tanzania (!), Gabon (!), São Tomé and Príncipe (!), Cameroon (!), Nigeria, Ghana (!), Côte d'Ivoire (!), Sierra Leone (!), Cape Verde Is., Ethiopia (!), Réunion (!), Mauri-

tius (!), Rodriguez, Seychelles, Yemen (Sokotra I!), Algeria, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal.

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